

Charleston Debate Centennial

DRAWER

5

DEBATES

1863-1864



The Lincoln-Douglas Debates 1858

Charleston Debate Centennial

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

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June 11, 1958

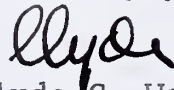
Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Gerald:

I am glad to learn of your Lincoln-Douglas Debates exhibit and I look forward to seeing it at Freeport in August. I have no hesitation in recommending that your exhibit should be displayed in Charleston during the month of September. For information concerning that centennial let me suggest you write to Mr. Alexander Summers, 108 Westview Place, Mattoon, Illinois.

What in the world has happened to the Lincoln Commission? The Commission has certainly received a bad press in Illinois particularly on the matter of restricting the Commission minutes.

Sincerely yours,



Clyde C. Walton

CCW:nj



NEWTON C. FARR
RAYMOND N. DOOLEY
CLARENCE P. MC CLELLAND
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CLYDE C. WALTON
State Historian

MARGARET A. FLINT
Reference Librarian

HOWARD F. RISSLER
Research Editor



June 12, 1958

Mr. Alexander Summers
108 Westview Place
Mattoon, Illinois

Dear Mr. Summers:

I have been informed by Clyde C. Walton that you are quite active in making plans for the Lincoln-Douglas Debate Centennial this year.

The Lincoln National Life Foundation is making up an exhibit for this centennial. It will measure 10' x 6' x 7' and will contain the life size photographic portraits of Lincoln and Douglas.

A large book on a rostrum attached to the exhibit will contain numerous photographs and printed materials relating to the debates.

We expect to place the exhibit in a local bank in Fort Wayne during the month of July. In August we will send the exhibit to Freeport. In October the exhibit will be in Galesburg. My purpose in writing you is to inquire if you would care to have the exhibit in Charleston during the month of September.

May I hear from you at an early date.

Yours sincerely,

RGM:mm

R. Gerald McMurtry

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Office of the President

CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

Diamond 5-2161

June 26, 1958

Mr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Director
The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. McMurtry:

Mr. Alexander Summers has given me your correspondence.
I in turn am handing it on to Mr. Everett Brown who is
chairman of the centennial committee. My function is
limited to setting up the program for one day.

Sincerely yours,



Quincy Doudna
President

D:w

cc: Mr. Summers

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Everett Brown, Chairman



Asa M. Ruyle, Executive Secretary

The Lincoln-Douglas Debate Centennial
September 18-October 11, 1958
Box 387
Charleston, Illinois

June 28, 1958

Mrs. Dale Bayles
Epsilon Sigma Alpha
Mrs. Verne Baker
Charleston Women's Club
Miss Viola Buchholz
Business and Professional Women
Mrs. Charles Coleman
Charleston
Eastern Illinois University
Quincy Doudna
Rudolph Anfinson
Charles Coleman
E. Glendon Gabbard
Hobart Heller
Ken Hesler
Don Kluge
Glenn H. Seymour
Joel Goldfarb
Junior Chamber of Commerce
Charles W. Reynolds
Charleston National Bank
Harold Marker
Kiwanis Club
Herman Monts
Lions Club
Rev. Frank Nestler
Ministerial Association
Elwood Popham
Junior Chamber of Commerce
Harry Read
Charleston
Ray Kelly
Chamber of Commerce
Wayne Shuey
Charleston
Joe Snyder
Mayor
Alexander Summers
Illinois Historical Society
S. E. Thomas
Charleston National Bank
Dale White
Rotary Club

Mr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. McMurtry:

Dr. Quincy Doudna has handed me your letter of June 12th, regarding your offer of an exhibit for the Centennial Celebration of the Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

We would like very much to have your exhibit in Charleston during the month of September, and appreciate your kindness in your offer. We will see that it is displayed in a prominent place, as I am sure it will create much interest.

Please let us know what date it will arrive and by what manner of shipment.

Very truly yours,

Everett W. Brown

Everett W. Brown
Chairman

EWB/md

cc: Dr. Quincy Doudna
Mr. Alex Summers

July 3, 1958

Mr. Everett W. Brown
Box 387
Charleston, Illinois

Dear Mr. Brown:

I have your letter of June 28 and I am delighted that your Lincoln - Douglas Debate Centennial committee will be able to use our Debate Exhibit during the month of September. The Exhibit is presently on display in the main lobby of the Lincoln National Bank and Trust Company here in Fort Wayne. We expect to send the Exhibit to Freeport, Illinois during the month of August where it will be on display at the Stephenson County Historical Society, and from there it will be sent to Charleston for exhibit during the month of September. We will then place the Exhibit on the campus of Knox College at Galesburg during the month of October.

The Exhibit is quite large measuring ten feet in width and is six feet and seven inches tall. It depicts Lincoln and Douglas photographically in life size. Between the two figures there is a rostrum on which we have a book in which we have all the details concerning the seven debates that were given between these two men in the year 1858.

We have special shipping boxes made and the Exhibit can be put together with little difficulty, however, it is a little complicated unless someone first gives it a bit of study.

Will you please let me know to whom the Exhibit should be sent and in what building the Exhibit will be displayed. We will send you mailing labels so that it can be shipped at our expense from Charleston to Galesburg.

We are quite excited with the Exhibit and I believe that it will create a great deal of attention in your city.

Yours sincerely,

RCMcMurtry:mej

Director

July 25, 1958

Mr. Everett W. Brown
Box 387
Charleston, Illinois

Dear Mr. Brown:

I have your letter of July 22 and I am pleased to know that you have completed your plans for the display of our Lincoln-Douglas Debate Exhibit. I think it is well that it is going to be displayed at the Charleston National Bank the first two weeks of September and then of course it is most appropriate to have it on exhibit at the Booth Library on the Campus of Eastern Illinois University the second two weeks of the month of September.

I will follow your instructions in regard to the shipping of the exhibit the first of September. I do not think that the men who put up the exhibit will have too much difficulty with it. However there is considerable work entailed in setting it up.

Wishing you a lot of success in your efforts to commemorate the Lincoln-Douglas Debate Centennial I remain

Yours sincerely,

RCMcMurtry:ny

Director

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Everett Brown, Chairman



Asa M. Ruyle, Executive Secretary

The Lincoln-Douglas Debate Centennial
September 18-October 11, 1958
Box 387
Charleston, Illinois

October 8, 1958

Mrs. Dale Bayles
Epsilon Sigma Alpha
Mrs. Verne Baker
Charleston Women's Club
Miss Viola Buchholz
Business and Professional Women
Mrs. Charles Coleman
Charleston
Eastern Illinois University
Quincy Doudna
Rudolph Anfinson
Charles Coleman
E. Glendon Gabbard
Hobart Heller
Ken Hesler
Don Kluge
Glenn H. Seymour
Joel Goldfarb
Junior Chamber of Commerce
Charles W. Reynolds
Charleston National Bank
Harold Marker
Kiwanis Club
Herman Monts
Lions Club
Rev. Frank Nestler
Ministerial Association
Elwood Popham
Junior Chamber of Commerce
Harry Read
Charleston
Ray Kelly
Chamber of Commerce
Wayne Shuey
Charleston
Joe Snyder
Mayor
Alexander Summers
Illinois Historical Society
S. E. Thomas
Charleston National Bank
Dale White
Rotary Club

Mr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Director
The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. Murtry:

I want to thank you again for your kindness in furnishing the Lincoln and Douglas display for our Centennial Celebration.

The first part of September your display was in the Charleston National Bank, and the last part in Booth Library on the campus of Eastern Illinois University. At both places it was viewed by many people and much favorable comment was made.

We do appreciate your thinking of Charleston, and feel that you are doing a fine thing to keep alive the tradition of these two great Americans.

Very truly yours,

Everett W. Brown

Chairman

md

October 14, 1958

Mr. Everett Brown
Box 387
Charleston, Illinois

Dear Mr. Brown:

I have your letter of October 8 and I am pleased to know that you found our Lincoln-Douglas display of interest for your Centennial Celebration.

The display arrived in Galesburg in excellent condition and created quite a lot of interest in that city. At the present time the display is in Springfield, Illinois.

I have attended the Freeport and the Galesburg Celebrations and I found them quite interesting. I was also able to acquire on both of these visits a considerable amount of literature pertaining to the Centennial. I'm wondering if Charleston, Illinois published any material concerning the Debate Centennial. I would appreciate very much having you send me any printed material which may be available. I will of course be very glad to pay any charges connected with this request.

Hoping to receive some printed literature from you I remain,

Yours sincerely,

RGMurtry:lr

Director

